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(ii) based on the DNS request, establishing the encrypted channel between the client and the target.

73. The method of claim 72, wherein step (ii) comprises steps of:
a) determining whether the client is authorized to access the target;
b) when the client is authorized to access the target, initiating the encrypted channel; and
c) when the client is not authorized to access the target, sending an error message to the client.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein step b) comprises sending encrypted channel parameters to the client.

75. The method of claim 72, wherein step (ii) occurs in a communication protocol independently of an application program.

76. The method of claim 72, wherein step (i) comprises a DNS proxy server intercepting the DNS request sent by the client.

77. The method of claim 72, wherein step (ii) comprises establishing the encrypted channel responsive to intercepting a DNS request for a domain name comprising a predetermined domain name extension.

78. A method for establishing an encrypted channel between a client and a secure host, comprising the step of automatically creating the encrypted channel upon intercepting a DNS request for a domain name comprising a predetermined domain name extension.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein the creating step is performed in a communication protocol independently of an application program.